dumping duty on raw silk and silk fabric imported from China with the Directorate General of Anti dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD), Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.

On the basis of the final findings, the DGAD, Ministry of Commerce Government of' India; has imposed anti-dumping duty on Chinese raw silk and on Chinese silk fabric. The anti-dumping duty on Mulberry raw silk is in place from July, 2003 and on silk fabric from November, 2006. The imposition of anti-dumping duty on the raw silk and silk fabric imported from China has helped in stabilizing the domestic sericulture and silk industry.

Restraining textile imports from China

1823. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile exports from China to India are restrained till 2008 to help the newly set up units;

(b) if so, whether the Mimstry is taking any steps to promote new ventures till the above period;

(c) if so, whether extension of tenure of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme include above measures;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry, subsequent to the letter from Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Ministry of Finance for the same;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) A safeguard clause exists in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) frame work, that till 2008, if the Chinese imports in WTO member country(s) hurt the textiles industry of the importing country, that country may impose quantitative restrictions on Chinese imports. So far no such restrictions on Chinese textiles imports have been imposed in India. However, the Government of India, has imposed anti-dumping duty on Chinese raw silk and Chinese silk fabric, *w.e.f.* July 2003 and November, 2006, respectively, to protect the domestic sericulture and silk industry. Various steps have been taken by the Government for the growth of textiles industry, which include:—

(i) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textiles sector under the automatic route.

(ii) The Government has de-reserved readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the Small Scale Industry (SSI) sector.

(iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 fo facilitate the modernisation and up gradation of the sector.

(iv) A new Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks has been formulated by merging the Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports and the Textiles

Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme, in order to expand the production base of the textiles and garment sector.

(v) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made filament yarns and man-made staple fibres, the whole value addition chain has been given the option of excise exemption.

(vi) Import of specified textiles and garment machinery has been allowed at a concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investment and to make our textiles product competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.

(vii) The Duty-free import of 21 items of trimmings and embellishment items is allowed to garment exporters. This can be upto 3% of their actual export performance during the previous year.

(viii) For the speedy modernisation of the textiles processing sector, Government has introduced, *w.e.f.* 20.4.2005, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.

(c) to (f) TUFS has been extended beyond 31.3.2007 subject to modifications, which are under process, relating to the rationalization of financial and technical norms of the Scheme.

High level meeting under PM to boost textile and garment sectors

1824. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to boost the textile and garment sector, there was a high level meeting under the leadership of Prime Minister in the recent past;

(b) if so, the major deliberations and decisions taken in the matter of priority of plan allocation, comprehensive Fibre Policy, etc.; and

(c) by when the effect of these decisions would be felt and the outcome known?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Details of decisions taken in the matter of priority of Plan allocation, fibre policy etc.

The Action Plan for the growth of the Textiles and Garments was recently considered by the High Level Commiittee on Manufacturing (HLCM) under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The HLCM, *inter alia*, deliberated over the following issues:

On the issue of availability of textiles machinery, it has been decided to visit few countries having major textile machinery manufacturers to explain them about